Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I am afraid, Sir, that is a question of future action.

Alleppey-Thondankulangara Munro-Light Road.

7. ***Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi** (*Karunagapalli, Karthigapalli and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertallai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the lands for the Thondankulangara-Ariad Munro Light Road in Ambalapuzha taluk were completely handed over to the P. W. D; and

(*b*) when the said road is expected to be completed?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: (*a*) Lands have not been completely handed over to the P. W. D.

(*b*) After the lands are handed over.

Lands left fallow for Kanni crop 1114 in the taluks of Agastiswaram and Tovala.

8. ***Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai** (*Tovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether in the taluks of Agastiswaram and Tovala lands were left fallow for the Kanni crop of 1114;

(*b*) if so, the total area of such lands;

(*c*) why they were left fallow;

(*d*) whether applications were received for remission of tax and water cess in respect of those lands; and

(*e*) if so what action has been taken on those applications?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao (*Land Revenue and Income tax Commissioner*): (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) 7403·72 acres

(*c*) Due to failure of rains and scarcity of Kodayar water for cultivation.

(*d*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*e*) Remission has been sanctioned in respect of applications allowable under the Remission Rules.

Mr. V.S. Arumukham Pillai: With reference to the answer to part (*b*), how many of these seven thousand odd acres are within the commanded area?

Mr M. Ramachandra Rao: I am not sure

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai: May I know whether the remission rules apply to lands which are not within the commanded area?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: No, Sir, the remission rules do not apply to such lands.

Mr V. S. Arumukham Pillai: With reference to the answer to part (d), may I know the amount sanctioned by way of water cess?

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Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: I claim notice; the whole amount remitted is Rs. 1,355.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai: Does that amount include water cess also?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao I claim notice

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai Is there not provision in the Land Revenue Manual to remit water cess in cases where the land cannot be served with Kodayar water?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: Yes, there is such a provision?

Mr. V. S. Arumukam Pillai: Are the Government justified in realising water cess in the light of such provision?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: The water is controlled by the P. W. D. and when that department writes to the L. R. Department that water cannot be supplied, action will be taken.

SHORT NOTICE OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Complaint of political prisoners regarding ill-treatment.

1. **Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any political prisoners have made any statements before the Court of the Division First Class Magistrate, Trivandrum, complaining about the ill-treatement which they were subjected to in the Central Jail;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the number of statements made, and the names of those who made the statements; and

(*c*) whether any action has been taken on the statements so made?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) A petition was presented by Miss. Akkamma Cheriyan, accused in C. C. No. 101/14 of the Division First Class Magistrate's Court, Trivandrum.

(*c*) Yes. The enquiry shows that the allegations are false The member's attention is invited to the Press Note dated the 26th January 1939 annexed hereto.

Annexure.

PRESS NOTE.

A statement issued by Mr. Pattam Thanu Pillai, President of the Travancore State Congress, contains serious allegations about the treatment meted out to Miss Akkamma Cheriyan, and her sister in the Central Jail, Trivandrum. Government find on investigation that those allegations are wholly unfounded.

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